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ABSTRACT

This book explains how perfectionism can immobilize some children, cause social adjustment problems for others, and be a major contributing factor to why school assignments and personal responsibilities are not being completed by so many of today's gifted children. Chapter 1 discusses the characteristics of perfectionists. It explains that because perfectionists can see many solutions to one problem they often cannot feel comfortable with a finishing point. Chapter 2 presents the nine most prevalent myths about gifted children and the realities associated with them. The six profiles of gifted learners in the Autonomous Learner Model are outlined and common characteristics of gifted children are described. Chapters 3, 4, and 5 discuss common negative behaviors of perfectionists, the positives of perfectionism (none), and the negatives of perfectionism. Chapter 6 provides suggestions for recovering from perfectionism and chapter 7 provides answers to commonly asked questions about perfectionism. The last chapters focus on child advocacy, discuss strategies parents can use to ensure the needs of their gifted students are being met at school, and provide comments from gifted students on giftedness. An appendix provides resources. (Contains 15 references.) (CR)